(b) if the answer to part(a) above be in the negative, what are the details of availability of the vaccine in the country for each of the last three years; and

(c) what is the optimum quantity of the vaccine required per year under the Government's immunisation programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) With the intensification of immunization Programme in the country the requirement of Oral Polio vaccine has increased and owing to the fact that the total production of this vaccine is not done within the country, there has been some shortage of Oral Polio Vaccine in the last three years. The position has improved during the current year.

(b) During the last three years the requirement and procurement of Oral Polio Vaccine for the Universal Immunization Programme has been as given below:—

Year	Requirement	Procurement
	lakh doses	lakh
1985-86 . . .	573	550
1986-87 . . .	653	571
1987-88 . . .	827	809

(c) As the Universal Immunization Programme is being extended to cover all the districts in the country, the requirement of Oral Polio Vaccine in the coming years will be around 1200 to 1250 lakh doses per year.

Use of "AIDS positive" blood products at AIIMS, New Delhi

715. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently it has been discovered at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi that some samples of indigenous blood product used for treatment of patients were "AIDS positive" and that in a survey conducted by the ICMR out of a total of 628 seropositive cases as many as 68 are in the category of blood donors' blood or blood product recipients;

(b) if so, what comprehensive steps are being taken to prevent AIDS infection through blood transfusion;

(c) the number of facilities in the country where blood is received regularly for medical use;

(d) the number of facilities out of the above which have equipment to test blood for AIDS contamination; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that import of AIDS testing kits is hampered by the customs department demanding an "AIDS free" certificate; if so, what steps are being taken to expedite customs clearance of these kits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes. Till 31st January, 89 2,09,825 persons from high risk groups have been screened for HIV antibodies and 764 were detected to be seropositive, of these 68 were blood donors.

(b) to (d) 739 Blood Banks are functioning in the country. Out of this 50 per cent of the available blood is collected from four Metropolitan cities:—

An action plan has been evolved to ensure safety of blood products and present spread of AIDS infection through blood transfusion. Steps have been initiated to establish linkages between blood banks surveillance centres in 30 cities, so that screening of blood for HIV antibodies could be initiated. In two metropolitan cities—Madras and Bombay the screening programme has already been launched.

(e) The kits for the national serosurveillance for HIV infection and blood screening are being imported through W.H.O. So far, there had not been any problem in getting the kits imported for the national programme.